

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) A collapsible microwave cooking container, comprising:  
a generally, rectangularly shaped paperboard blank folded along crease lines to form a bottom portion, a first side portion, a top portion, and a second side portion wherein said top portion and said first side portion are adapted to be attached so as to form a cube having opposed, open sides; and

a first collapsible side and a second collapsible side each adapted to substantially cover one of said opposed, open sides of said cube when said collapsible microwave cooking container is in an expanded configuration;

wherein each of said first collapsible side and said second collapsible side comprise a first generally rectangularly shaped segment laterally extending from said bottom portion and having a first radiused locking tab adjoining said first segment, a second generally rectangularly shaped segment laterally extending from said top portion and having a second radiused locking tab adjoining said second segment, and a locking tab slot disposed at the intersection of at least one of the first and second radiused locking tabs and the corresponding one of the first and second generally rectangularly shaped segments, respectively, such that when said collapsible microwave cooking container is in said expanded configuration, said collapsible microwave container is generally maintained in said expanded configuration as an exterior surface of said first locking tab engages an interior surface of said second generally rectangularly shaped segment and an exterior surface of said second locking tab engages an interior surface of said first generally rectangularly shaped segment and said top portion and one of said first and second generally rectangularly shaped segments is disposed within a the locking tab slot formed in the other of said first and second generally rectangularly shaped segments.

2. (previously presented) The collapsible microwave cooking container as recited in claim 1, wherein said second generally rectangularly shaped segment has said locking tab slot.

3. (previously presented) The collapsible microwave cooking container as recited in claim 2, wherein said locking tab slot is positioned adjacent said second locking tab.

4. (previously presented) The collapsible microwave cooking container as recited in claim 3, wherein said second radiused locking tab has an arcuate end portion and said arcuate end portion forms an acute angle between said second locking tab and said second generally rectangularly shaped segment.

5. (previously presented) The collapsible microwave cooking container as recited in claim 3, wherein said first and second radiused locking tabs of said first and second generally rectangularly shaped segments extend to a height that is at least sixty-seven percent of a height provided to the first and second side portions.

6. (Original) The collapsible microwave cooking container as recited in claim 1, wherein a charge pouch is attached to the bottom portion.

7. (Original) The collapsible microwave cooking container as recited in claim 6, wherein the charge pouch includes un-popped popcorn.

8. (Original) A collapsible microwave cooking container;  
a generally, rectangularly shaped paperboard blank folded along crease lines to form a bottom portion, a first side portion, a top portion, and a second side portion wherein said top portion and said first side portion are adapted to be attached so as to form a cube having opposed, open sides; and

a first collapsible side and a second collapsible side each adapted to substantially cover one of said opposed, open sides of said cube when said collapsible microwave cooking container is in an expanded condition;

wherein each of said first collapsible side and said second collapsible side comprise an outwardly extendable tab for use in removing said collapsible microwave cooking container from a microwave oven after heating.

9. (previously presented) The collapsible microwave cooking container as recited in claim 8, wherein said first and second collapsible sides are formed by cooperating, bendable segments provided to opposed sides of each of said top portion, bottom portion, and first and second side portions and wherein said segments provided to the top portion comprise said outwardly extendable tab.

10. (currently amended) A collapsible microwave cooking container, comprising:  
a generally, rectangularly shaped paperboard blank folded along crease lines to form a bottom portion, a first side portion, a top portion, and a second side portion wherein said top portion and said first side portion are adapted to be attached so as to form a cube having opposed, open sides; and

a first collapsible side and a second collapsible side each adapted to substantially cover one of said opposed, open sides of said cube when said collapsible microwave cooking container is in an expanded condition;

wherein said first and second collapsible sides are formed by cooperating, bendable segments provided to opposed sides of each of said top portion, bottom portion, and first and second side portions and wherein said bendable segments provided to said first and second side portions cooperate with said bendable segments provided to said bottom portion to contiguously integrate upwardly extending sections of said first and second side portions and said collapsible sides about a perimeter of said bottom portion for reducing leakage from said collapsible microwave cooking container when said collapsible microwave cooking container is in said expanded condition, and wherein at least one of said bendable segments provided to said first and second side portions cooperates with at least one of said bendable segments provided to said bottom portion to form an arcuate corner.

11. (previously presented) The collapsible microwave cooking container as recited in claim 10, wherein a length of each of said segments provided to said first side portion are adjoined to a length of a corresponding one of said segments provided to said bottom portion.

12. (currently amended) The collapsible microwave cooking container as recited in claim ~~4~~10, wherein a length of each of said segments provided to said second side portion is adjoined to a length of a corresponding one of said segments provided to said bottom portion.

13. (currently amended) The collapsible microwave cooking container as recited in claim ~~12~~11, wherein each of said segments provided to said ~~second~~first side portion and said corresponding one of said segments provided to said bottom portion are arranged to form an arcuate corner.

14. (currently amended) The collapsible microwave cooking container as recited in claim ~~13~~12, wherein each of said segments provided to said second side portion and said corresponding one of said segments provided to said bottom portion are arranged to form an arcuate corner.

15. (new) A collapsible microwave cooking container comprising:

a generally rectangular shaped paperboard blank folded along crease lines to form a bottom portion, a first side portion, a top portion, and a second side portion, wherein said top

portion and said first side portion are adapted to be attached so as to form a cube having opposed, open sides; and

a first collapsible side and a second collapsible side each adapted to substantially cover one of said opposed, open sides of said cube when said collapsible microwave cooking container is in an expanded configuration, wherein at least one of said first collapsible side and said second collapsible side comprises:

a generally rectangularly shaped segment laterally extending from one of said bottom portion and said top portion;

a radiused locking tab adjoining said generally rectangularly shaped segment;  
and

a locking tab slot disposed at the intersection of at said radiused locking tab and said generally rectangularly shaped segment.